

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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43

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 T-03 OMB-01

AID-20 PC-15 INRE-00 /121 W
----- 092070

P R 191600 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1338

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USCINCSO

DIA DOD WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 1848

FOR ARA/ APU TONKIN. USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJ: ARGENTINE ELECTIONS RESULTS REPORT NO. 12

1. SUMMARY. VOTE RECOUNT CONTINUES SLOWLY BUT OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION STILL EXPECTED BY MID WEEK. DISSIDENT VOICES IN UCR ARE BEGINNING TO DEMAND A SECOND ROUND, AND SOME PERONISTS ARE ALSO TALKING OF INSISTING ON SECOND ROUND IF GOVT " ROBS" THEM OF MAJORITY ON FIRST. END SUMMARY.

2. ISOLATED ELEMENTS WITH UCR ARE BEGINNING TO COMPLAIN OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE' S DECISION TO ABSTAIN FROM SECOND ROUND EVEN IF VOTE RECOUNT INDICATES CAMPORA DID NOT REACH FIFTY PERCENT (FINAL PRELIMINARY COUNT APPARENTLY LEFT HIM AT 49 PERCENT). FRANCISCO SANCHEZ JAUREGUI, ONE OF UCR LEADERS IN FEDERAL CAPITAL, HAS PUBLICLY INSISTED THAT THIS IS DECISION WHICH RIGHTFULLY SHOULD BE MADE BY NATIONAL CONGRESS RATHER THAN BY NATIONAL COMMITTEE. EMBASSY CONTACTS
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IN UCR, HOWEVER, TELL US THIS IS NOT THE CASE AND THAT EVEN IF IT WERE, THERE IS NO QUESTION BUT THAT UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES A NATIONAL CONGRESS WOULD CHOOSE TO OPT OUT OF SECOND ROUND.

3. ANY FAINT HOPE HELD BY SOME ELEMENTS IN UCR OF WINNING ON SECOND ROUND, DESPITE CAMPORA'S 49 PERCENT ON THE FIRST, MUST HAVE BEEN DASHED BY THE MARCH 16 ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ALIANZA POPULAR (ALENDE-SUELDO) THAT THE ELECTORATE HAD EXPRESSED ITS PREFERENCE AND THE ALIANZA POPULAR WOULD HENCEFORTH SUPPORT THAT PREFERENCE - I. E. THEY WILL SUPPORT THE FRENTE JUSTICIALISTA ON THE SECOND ROUND - APPARENTLY EVEN IF THAT SECOND ROUND SHOULD ENCOMPASS A PRESIDENTIAL RUN-OFF.

4. SCENE IS FURTHER CONFUSED BY VOICES WITHIN THE FRENTE JUSTICIALISTA ITSELF DEMANDING A RUN-OFF IF THE OFFICIAL RESULTS SHOW THE FRENTE WITH ONLY 49 PERCENT. IN THEIR WORDS, THIS WOULD FORCE THE GOVT TO GIVE THE FRENTE WHAT IT HAS ALREADY RIGHTFULLY WON, AND THE FRENTE PROBABLY HAS WELL-BASED HOPES OF INCREASING THEIR TOTAL IN A SECOND ROUND. THEY HAVE NOT EXPLAINED HOW THERE CAN BE A RUN-OFF IF UCR REFUSES TO RUN.

5. COMMENT: EVERY STAGE OF THIS ELECTORAL PROCESS HAS BEEN OBFUSCATED AND UNCERTAIN. THIS LAST ONE - I. E. QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT THERE IS TO BE A SECOND ROUND - APPARENTLY WILL BE NO DIFFERENT.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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